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**REMARKS**

The Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for the analysis contained in the Official Action dated April 4, 2006.

Claims 15 and 16 are rejected, under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), as being anticipated by Logan, Jr. et al. '208. The Applicant acknowledges and respectfully traverses the raised anticipatory rejection in view of the following remarks.

The subject matter of claim 16 has been inserted into claim 15, along with further clarifying amendments. Claim 16 is now redundant and has been canceled. Logan Jr. et al '208 uses multiple layers (housing 11, protective plastic sheet 20 and phosphorescent sheet 19) backlit by light 18 to create the same effect of the present invention. Housing 11 of Logan Jr. et al. '208 serves as a stencil having a first face and a second face which forms the word "EXIT". The present invention is able to eliminate the layers of Logan Jr. et al. '208 by positioning an integrally formed transparent window across the second face. The cavity is filled with luminescent epoxy between the first face and the second face. The transparent window enables the luminescent epoxy to be exposed to a light positioned behind the sign plate.

It is respectfully submitted that with the Logan Jr. et al patent reference, only that portion of phosphorescent sheet 19 visible through the cavities in stencil is effective. The majority of phosphorescent sheet 19 is concealed behind housing 11. This represents a significant cost for phosphorescence, that will never be seen. In contrast, luminescent material in an exit sign constructed in accordance with the teachings of the present invention is confined to the cavities of the stencil where it will all serve a useful purpose. This provides a substantial cost saving, as attempts are made to increase the amount of luminescent material visible to lengthen the time of illumination in the event of an emergency.

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Claims 1-3, 5, 8 and 10 are rejected, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Logan, Jr. et al. '208 in view of Anders et al. '024. The Applicant acknowledges and respectfully traverses the raised obviousness rejection in view of the following remarks.

It is respectfully submitted that the arguments and amendments submitted with respect to the rejection under section 35 U.S.C. § 102 are equally applicable to demonstrate the patentability of independent claims 1 and 10, over Logan Jr. et al. '208. The teachings of Anders et al. '024 regarding the use of luminescent epoxy are not disputed, do not undermine the arguments submitted. It is believed that as claims 2, 3, and 8 depend from claim 1, as amended, they are also in condition for allowance.

If any further amendment to this application is believed necessary to advance prosecution and place this case in allowable form, the Examiner is courteously solicited to contact the undersigned representative of the Applicant to discuss the same.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the raised rejections should be withdrawn at this time. If the Examiner disagrees with the Applicant's view concerning the withdrawal of the outstanding rejections or applicability of the Logan, Jr. et al. '208 and/or Anders et al. '024 references, the Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to indicate the specific passage or passages, or the drawing or drawings, which contain the necessary teaching, suggestion and/or disclosure required by case law. As such teaching, suggestion and/or disclosure is not present in the applied references, the raised rejection should be withdrawn at this time. Alternatively, if the Examiner is relying on his/her expertise in this field, the Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to enter an affidavit substantiating the Examiner's position so that suitable contradictory evidence can be entered in this case by the Applicant.

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In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the raised rejection(s) should be withdrawn and this application is now placed in a condition for allowance. Action to that end, in the form of an early Notice of Allowance, is courteously solicited by the Applicant at this time.

The Applicant respectfully requests that any outstanding objection(s) or requirement(s), as to the form of this application, be held in abeyance until allowable subject matter is indicated for this case.

In the event that there are any fee deficiencies or additional fees are payable, please charge the same or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account (Account No. 04-0213).

Respectfully submitted,



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